

# PERSPECTIVE

## FROM THE FRONTLINES

CELEBRATING OUR 43RD YEAR OF RESTORING HOPE



**CABARRUS  
COUNTY**

## HOW DOES IT HAPPEN HERE?



**ED HOSACK**  
CEO

The complications of housing crisis can lead to financial decisions made in desperation and unhealthy behaviors in response to overwhelming stress on the household.

To be cost burdened means the remaining household income must address all other essential household expenses such as food, childcare, medications, transportation, communication, education expenses, insurance and repairs. Inflation, affecting nearly all of these other essential expenses, has made this burden unbearable for some. In addition to the stress of being financially cost burdened, the threat of losing a place to stay is fueled by: temporary housing no longer available due to landlord rules, increasing financial and relational strain on host families, housing that becomes unsafe for family members, or changes in property ownership that lead to rent increases.

Housing crisis and all of its complexities, more often than ever before, leads to loss of housing. Loss of housing in Cabarrus County creates barriers to recovery. Here is how:

- No equity to carry forward to secure new housing
- Lack of deposit funds to accompany first month rent
- Inability to secure a lease or establish utilities due to credit issues
- History of eviction or conviction makes it nearly impossible to reestablish access to housing.



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According to data from the National Center for Homeless Education, HUD reported that people in families with children had the largest single year increase in homelessness. Between 2023 and 2024, 39% more people in families with children experienced homelessness.

Closer to home, the North Carolina Homeless Education Program reported that 37,197 Pre-K - 12th Grade students were experiencing homelessness in the 2023-2024 school year. Data shows: 18% staying in hotel/motel, 7% staying in shelter, 71% doubled up, and 4% were unsheltered. (~1,488 children sleeping outside)

**In Cabarrus County,** our school systems identified **14% more** students in 2024 as having **experienced homelessness** than in 2023 and a 33% increase from 2022.

More than a door to lock and a bed to sleep in, home is a place to belong and a place to lay a foundation to build upon. It is a steady place where relationships are built and dreams are launched. The foundations of household stability are family, health, education and employment. Unfortunately, challenges within our culture have left many without these basics. Consequently, the path to stability is a complex and multi-faceted educational process that requires determination and hard work. Not everyone is ready to commit to the rigors of rebuilding, but those who persevere develop character and hope.

Without stable housing, one day is like the rest. It is like running in place, only to be exhausted and having made no progress. From this vantage point, there is no hope.

However, in Cabarrus County, **there is hope!**

Don't miss the **4th article of this 4-part series: "What can we do in our community?"** in next month's Newsletter.

REGISTER NOW!

Attention all Nonprofit  
Leaders, Staff, and Volunteers!  
**JOIN US!**

**SHAPING  
THE FUTURE  
TOGETHER**

CABARRUS COUNTY  
NONPROFIT WORKSHOP  
AUGUST 28, 2025

8:30 AM - 1:00 PM @ CROSSROADS CHURCH  
220 GEORGE W. LILES PARKWAY, CONCORD

REGISTER

01

## HOUSING

**GOAL # 1: Increase local capacity for transitional housing to address the needs in our community.** Increasing local capacity for transitional housing is essential for meeting the diverse needs of our community, particularly for individuals and families experiencing homelessness or housing instability. By enhancing our transitional housing infrastructure, we can provide safe, supportive environments that provide a path to stability while addressing underlying issues.

02

## STABILIZATION

**GOAL # 2: Expand the network that provides access to resources necessary for household and financial stability.** Collaborating with local organizations, agencies, and community stakeholders will enable us to create comprehensive support systems that offer not only housing stability but also access to essential services and resources such as financial planning, job training, life skills, and healthcare.

03

## OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN

**GOAL # 3: Support the overall development of children in vulnerable households throughout our community.** Engaging in the collaboration among local organizations, schools, and families will help create a holistic support system that addresses the unique needs of each child. By prioritizing access to quality education, healthcare, and social services, we can empower these children to overcome barriers that might otherwise hinder their growth and success.

04

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

**GOAL # 4: Provide access to resources for working age adults to develop skills for financially stable careers.** Creating pathways for individuals to gain relevant training, education, and support that align with market demands and career opportunities. By collaborating with local businesses, educational institutions, and workforce development agencies, we aim to offer tailored skill building programs, apprenticeships, and mentorship initiatives that empower adults to navigate the evolving job landscape successfully.

05

## OLDER ADULT SERVICES

**GOAL # 5: Empower older adults to lead physically and emotionally healthy lives with purpose and dignity.** Emphasizing the importance of creating initiatives for older adults that promote active lifestyles, social engagement, and mental well-being. Promoting intergenerational connections to foster a sense of belonging and purpose, while advocating for the rights and needs of older adults to ensure they are treated with respect and dignity.

# THE REBUILDERS CAMPUS UPDATE

## ***RUN OF THE MILL* SERIES RECAP: WATCH THE VISION COME TO LIFE**

The housing crisis in Cabarrus County is real — and Cooperative Christian Ministry is responding with bold action. The **Rebuilders Campus at Brown Mill** is a transformative response: a supportive housing and resource hub designed to restore hope, provide stability, and empower individuals and families in crisis.

Over the last few months, our Run of the Mill video series has given our community a front-row seat to the transformation. From construction progress to heart-driven programming, we've shared how this once-abandoned mill is becoming a campus of healing, education, and opportunity. Here's a quick look at what you may have missed — and why now is the time to join the movement:

### **1. THE VISION BEGINS**

CLICK TO WATCH HOW IT ALL STARTED



In the series kickoff, hear directly from CEO Ed Hosack as he outlines the need behind The Rebuilders Campus and how

it will serve as a lifeline for families, seniors, and individuals in Cabarrus County. You'll also learn about our \$9.6 million **Windows of Opportunity Capital Campaign**, which invites 10% of local households and businesses to contribute \$1,200 over three years — because together, we can fund this life-changing vision.

### **3. BEFORE + AFTER**

CLICK TO WATCH THE TRANSFORMATION



Take a powerful visual tour of the Program Office transformation. This before-and-after video shows how an empty space

is becoming the heart of our campus — where programs will be planned, coordinated, and customized for every resident we serve.

### **2. STEP INSIDE THE TRANSFORMATION**

CLICK TO WATCH THE BEHIND-THE-SCENES



Join CCM Director of Facilities & Maintenance, Phil Tackett, for a behind-the-scenes tour of

construction in progress. This video brings the campus to life — showing how the original Brown Mill is being re-imagined into a vibrant space for housing, vocational training, nonprofit collaboration, and community care.

### **4. MEET THE TEAM**

CLICK TO MEET THE TEAM



Now that you've seen the space, meet the people behind it. In this personal and inspiring episode, we

introduce a few of the dedicated staff who will walk alongside residents with compassion, structure, and spiritual support. This is where the vision becomes ministry — and ministry becomes transformation.

## **STAY CONNECTED — MORE STORIES ARE COMING**

We're just getting started. More episodes, updates, and impact stories are coming soon. To stay in the loop:

Follow [@RebuildersCampus](#) on Facebook and Instagram. Catch up on the full video series on YouTube. Learn how you can support the Windows of Opportunity Campaign at [rebuilderscampus.com](https://rebuilderscampus.com).

# THANK YOU

## JUNE FOOD DONATIONS

A big shout out to a few of our amazing food donors this month!

- **Christ Covenant Church** – 400 lbs. of pantry staples
- **Lifeline Ministries** – 2,500 lbs. of their signature rice and veggie packs
- And a special thank you to our local farms and gardens: **Barbee Farms, Lomax, the YMCA Garden, and Farmers Market vendors** who are starting to share their harvests with us as the growing season picks up

## CHA AT BROWN MILL: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPOTLIGHT

As Cabarrus Health Alliance prepares for its January 2026 move to Brown Mill Commons, we're continuing to spotlight the essential services that will grow their reach and impact. This month, we're featuring CHA's Environmental Health Division and the vital role it plays in keeping our community safe and healthy.

CHA's Environmental Health Division provides direct services to approximately 4,500 homes and establishments each year. It also offers guidance and communication to nearly 10,000 individuals to help safeguard public health and prevent illness, disease, and exposure to environmental contaminants. Inspections and permitting keep Cabarrus County restaurants, hotels, pools, tattoo parlors, hospitals, nursing homes, jails, and childcare facilities safe while wastewater and well permitting ensures county residents access clean and healthy water. Being centrally located in the county will allow for ease of access by community members and ease of travel for staff. Stay tuned for more spotlights as we continue to share how CHA will expand its impact through the new Brown Mill Commons campus.

For more information about CHA, visit [Cabarrus Health Alliance, NC](#).

YOUR WINDOW OF  
**OPPORTUNITY**  
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

**LEARN & GIVE**





CLICK TO VIEW  
the full Strategic Plan

LEARN MORE

## COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUESTS

Join with us in supporting our community through prayer. Watch as God works around us through our faithful prayers.

PRAY WITH US



## FOOD RESOURCES

The 'Cabarrus County Food Resource Map', which was created by the Hunger Task Force, is available on our website. Please share this valuable resource with the community.

VIEW MAP



## SENIOR RESOURCE GUIDE

We provide resources for housing, health, transportation, and more. Click the button to see all the resources we provide.

LEARN MORE



## HELP with HOUSING

Our housing programs provide the opportunity for families with children, senior adults, and other adult individuals to stop the cycle of loss, establish sustainability, and achieve housing stability.

LEARN MORE



Sign up to round up your monthly City of Concord Utility bill to the nearest dollar and help keep the air, heat, and lights on for hundreds of families in need.

Visit: <https://concordnc.gov/Departments/Customer-Care/Neighbor-Helping-Neighbor>



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CHRISTIAN  
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